

The Baptismal Covenant

Leader Do you believe in God the Father?

All **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Leader Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Leader Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

Leader Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Leader Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Leader Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Leader Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

All **I will, with God's help.**

Leader Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

All **I will, with God's help.**

The Leader prays:

Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin: Grant that we, being reborn to new life in him, may live in righteousness and holiness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** (BCP 254)

or

Grant, Lord God, to all who have been baptized into the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ, that, as we have put away the old life of sin, so we may be renewed in the spirit of our minds, and live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.** (BCP 252)

Session 5:

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

What does this mean?

Why would we do this? Why do we need to do this once we are baptized?

How do we do this? (Where do we do this?)

Bible Study: Isaiah 42:1-9

Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

- what idea or image gets your attention?
- what questions do you want to ask about this?
- how does this help you understand striving for justice and peace among all people, and respecting the dignity of every human being?

Take it home:

One thing you can do this week to practice striving for justice and peace among all people, and respecting the dignity of every human being?

With God's help:

Write a prayer, or a note to help you pray for how God can help you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respecting the dignity of every human being.

Closing Prayers:

Prayers of the Baptized

Leader Let us pray.

All Deliver us, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.
Lord, hear our prayer.

All Open our hearts to your grace and truth.
Lord, hear our prayer.

All Fill us with your holy and life-giving Spirit.
Lord, hear our prayer.

All Keep us in the faith and communion of your holy Church.
Lord, hear our prayer.

All Teach us to love others in the power of the Spirit.
Lord, hear our prayer.

All Send us into the world in witness to your love.
Lord, hear our prayer.

All Bring us to the fullness of your peace and glory.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Leader Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. **Amen.**

All **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**